BOMBAY GAZETTE.

PUBLISHED THRICE A WEEK, ON EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, AND FRIDAY, MORNING.

PRICE 13 RUPEES PER QUARTER:—52 RUPEES PER ANNUM:—OR, IF PAID IN ADVANCE, 48 RUPEES PER ANNUM.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in Malice."

Vol. LII. BOMBAY: FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 1841. New Series No. 28.

CHARGES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE BOMBAY GAZETTE.

6 Annas per line, with the customary abatement to the Trade.

For others the charges are:

6 Annas per line for a first insertion.
3 do. do. for a second do.
2 do. do. for a third do.

The same being in immediately succeeding papers.

Under ten lines, 4 Rupees.

BOMBAY GAZETTE OVERLAND DISPATCH.

WHICH will contain a Precis of Indian Intelligence for the past Month.

The Public and Subscribers to the Gazette are informed that an Overland Monthly Dispatch, will be published at this Office for the present and every succeeding Mail—to Subscribers of the Gazette, *Gratis*.—Non-Subscribers one Rupee per Copy and to Subscribers for the above alone Rs. 10 per Annum, in England £1. 1s.

The Outstation Subscribers to the *Bombay Gazette* are hereby informed that if they will favor the Editor with the names of the Parties in England to whom they wish their Overland Gazette to be sent, they will be forwarded punctually through the Post Office here by each Steamer.

No Postage is levied by the Falmouth route and by Marseilles Two-pence.

Agents in England, Messrs. Grindlay, Christian and Matthews, 16, Cornhill, and 8, St. Martin's place, Charing Cross.

Bombay Gazette Office, No. 5, Forbes' Street.

THE SUBSCRIBERS of the BOMBAY GAZETTE are respectfully requested to take notice that the New Proprietorship commenced from the 1st of June 1840, and that all accounts &c. with the present concern will commence from that date.

THE SUBSCRIBERS to the GAZETTE are requested that whenever a change of residence or Station may take place, they will be pleased to give information of the same, in order, to prevent mistakes in forwarding their Newspaper.

COPPER PLATE PRINTING.

THE LADIES and GENTLEMEN of the Presidency and the Public in general are hereby informed, that VISITING and INVITATION CARDS will be neatly executed and on reasonable terms at this Office.

All orders for Copper Plate Engraving and Card Printing addressed to the Printer of this Paper will be carefully attended to.

TO THE ARMY AND NAVY.

THE following Works are for Sale and to be had on application at this Office.

MARRYAT'S CODE OF SIGNALS, Sixth Edition, of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Parts, with the Supplement to the above, and also the Honorable Company's Steamers and Ships of War, corrected and enlarged with considerable alterations and additions..... Rs. 2

Report of the Commissioners for Inquiring into the Naval and Military Promotion and Retirement..... Rs. 2

Proceedings of a General Court Martial held at Fort George on Captain D. G. DUFF, 16th Regt. N. I..... Rs. 1

BOMBAY SPORTING MAGAZINE.

MANY applications having been made to the EDITOR of this Journal, and promises of assistance given to get up a *Sporting Magazine*. It is hereby announced that the 1st No. of the BOMBAY SPORTING MAGAZINE was published on the 25th of December, and No. 2 will appear in March. The price to Subscribers is 12 Rupees a year, single numbers 4 Rupees. Communications will be thankfully received.

FOR SALE.—A few copies of the "CEYLON MAGAZINE" from No. 1 to 3, for September, October and November, Price 3 Rupees per Copy.—Apply at the Bombay Gazette Office.

Gentlemen desirous of becoming Subscribers to the above Periodical will be pleased to communicate the same to the Editor by letter post paid.

FOR SALE, at the Gazette Office

Respondentia Bonds, each	Rs.	1
Ship's Articles.....	,,	1
Policies of Insurance.....	,,	0
Bills of Exchange, per set.....	Ans.	0
Interest Bonds.....	,,	0
Bills of Lading.....	,,	0
Powers of Attorney, each.....	,,	

THE SIXTY EIGHTH MADRAS GOVERNMENT LOTTERY.

TICKETS and Shares in the First Class of the above Lottery are for sale at WITHULDASS BHOYCHUND AND Co. Oppesite to the General Post Office at the following prices viz.

Whole Ticket at Rupees 49 each.
Half.... do.. ,,.. ,, 25 ,,
Quarter do.. ,,.. ,, 12½ ,,

TERMS CASH.

The Drawing will take place on the 29th instant.

Bombay, 5th March 1841.

ADVERTISEMENT.

A Respectable Person who can give excellent testimonials as to character wishes to proceed to England in the next Steamer in the capacity of Servant to a Lady, Gentleman, or Family. As his principal wish is to get home free of cost, Salary will not be so much an object. Inquire of the Printer at the Gazette Office.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

FORT WILLIAM.

THE 1ST FEBRUARY, 1841.

The following Draft of a proposed Act was read in Council for the first time on the 1st of February 1841.

ACT No.——OF 1841.

An Act for regulating public conveyances in the Island of Bombay, and Colaba, and the Harbour of Bombay.

I. It is hereby enacted, that all Hackney Carriages, Carts, Palankeens and other vehicles let to hire for the purpose of conveying persons or goods within the Island of Bombay and Colaba, and all boats let to hire for such purpose within the harbour of Bombay shall bear upon them on each side in large English and Native figures or characters a certian number to be furnished for every such public conveyance in manner hereinafter mentioned, and every person who shall let out to hire any such public conveyance after the expiration of three months from the day of passing this Act which shall not bear such number in manner aforesaid, or which shall bear any number not furnished as aforesaid, or after notice as hereinafter mentioned to withdraw the same, shall be liable on conviction before a justice of the Peace in any sum not exceeding Thirty Rupees.

II. And it is hereby enacted, that the numbers to be used for public conveyances may be furnished by any two Justices of the Peace in Petty Sessions assembled on application of the owners of such conveyances; and it shall be lawful for Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace in general Sessions assembled on proof of the breach of any provision of this Act by the owner of any such conveyance as aforesaid, to give such owner notice to withdraw the number which may theretofore have been furnished to him in manner aforesaid.

III. And it is hereby enacted, that every Teekabearer, Boatman, or other person employed in the conveyance of persons or goods as aforesaid by the owner of any such public conveyance shall wear a badge on the upper part of his right arm with the number of the public conveyance to which he belongs, in default whereof every person so employed and not having such badge as aforesaid shall be liable, on conviction before a Justice of the Peace in any sum not exceeding Twenty Rupees.

IV. And it is hereby enacted, that it shall be lawful for the Justices of the Peace in general Sessions assembled from time to time to settle the rates for the hire of such public conveyances as aforesaid, and the rates so settled, if sanctioned by the Governor of Bombay in Council, shall be published twice in the Government Gazette. And after such publication it the owner or other person in charge of any such public conveyance as aforesaid shall receive or require any higher rate for the hire thereof, or shall refuse a fare upon tender of the prescribed rate, the person or persons on whose application the number of such public conveyance shall have been furnished as aforesaid shall be liable, on conviction before a Justice of the Peace, in any sum not exceeding Twenty Rupees. Provided always, that no person shall be deemed to be liable to the penalty in this Section unless the settled rate of hire shall have been duly tendered, and any person refusing to pay the money due from him for the hire of any such conveyance according to the rate settled as aforesaid, shall be liable, on conviction before a Justice of the Peace in any sum not exceeding Twenty Rupees, and no contract for hire under the settled rate shall be valid or binding on any owner of a public conveyance.

V. And it is hereby provided, that nothing in this Act contained shall extend to prevent any person from letting to hire any conveyances for a month or longer period without any such number being applied for as aforesaid.

Ordered, that the Draft now read be published for general information.

Ordered, that the said Draft be reconsidered at the first Meeting of the Legislative Council after the 1st day of May next.

T. H. MADDOCK,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

CIVIL APPOINTMENTS, &c.

TERRITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

REVENUE.

Bombay Castle, 22nd February 1841.

Mr. J. H. Pelly, collector of continental customs and excise, is allowed leave of absence for two years, to proceed to the Neilgherry Hills, for the benefit of his health.

Mr. J. W. Langford, to act as collector of continental customs and excise, but to continue in charge of his present appointment until relieved by Mr. Jackson.

Bombay Castle, 26th February 1841.

Mr. G. S. Karr, third assistant to the collector of Sholapoor, is allowed leave of absence, for one month, under section XI. to proceed to the Mahableshwur Hills, on private affairs.

The leave of absence granted to Mr. W. Hart, third assistant to the collector and magistrate of Poona, on the 12th instant, on sick certificate, is extended to the 18th March next.

Mr. C. E. F. Tytler, to act as third assistant to the collector and magistrate of Ahmednuggur.

Bombay Castle, 27th February 1841.

Mr. W. Capon, to be uncovenanted assistant to the collector of customs at the Presidency, in succession to Manackjee Cursetjee.

Bombay Castle, 1st March 1841.

Mr. P. Scott, is confirmed in the appointment of first assistant to the collector of Poona, from the 2nd instant.

Bombay Castle, 3rd March 1841.

Mr. J. H. Jackson, collector and Magistrate of Tanna resumed charge of his duties on the 1st instant.

By order of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council,
L. R. REID, *Chief Secy.*

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 26th February 1841.

The Hon'ble the Governor in Council is pleased to grant one of the furlough allowances of £(500) five hundred per annum, to Richard Spooner Esquire of the civil service, for the period of three years, to commence in April next.

Surgeon J. Don, to take charge of the duties of vaccinator, Poona division of the army, from the date of Dr. White's proceeding to join his regimental appointment, until Dr. Bourchier assumes charge of the situation.

M. Larken Esquire returned to his duty in the civil establishment of this presidency, in the Hon'ble Company's Steamer Victoria, on the 12th instant, with the permission of the Hon'ble the Court of Directors, without prejudice to his rank.

By order of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council,
W. R. MORRIS, *Secy. to Govt.*

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 1st March 1841.

The judges of the sudder foujdaree adawlut, issued a sunnud bearing date the 15th ultimo, to Rao Sahib Shreedhur Luximon, appointing him to act as sudder ameen at Sholapoor.

Rao Bahadoor Govind Jairam, acting principal sudder ameen of Poona, assumed chorge of his office, on the 16th ultimo.

Bombay Castle, 1st March 1841.

Mr. J. A. Shaw, judge and session judge of Dharwar, resumed charge of his office on the 13th ultimo.

By order of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council.
J. P. WILLOUGHBY,
Secretary to Government.

GENERAL ORDERS.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

BY THE HON'BLE THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL.

Bombay Castle, 26th February 1841.

No. 135 of 1841.—Alexander Henderson Esq. 3rd Member of the Medical Board, is permitted to retire from the Service of the Hon'ble Company, on the pension of his rank, agreeably to Article 57, Section LVII of the 2nd Supplement to the Code of Military Regulations, from the 1st proximo.

The Hon'ble the Governor in Council will have great pleasure in bringing to the notice of the Honorable the Court of Directors, the long and valuable services of Dr. Henderson, and the zeal and assiduity which he has evinced wherever employed, whether in the immediate line of his profession, or in other departments of the public service.

No. 136 of 1841.—The following temporary arrangement in made:—

Lieutenant A. M. Haselwood, Acting Adjutant to the Native Veteran Battalion, to take charge of the Treasure Chest, and to perform the duties of Staff officer at Dapoolee, vice Lieutenant Scriven proceeding to Europe.

No. 137 of 1841.—An arrangement by which Captain A. H. O. Matthews of the 15th Regiment Native Infantry, was nominated to command the Detachment over the Subsidiary Jail at Tannah, from the 16th November to the 1st December 1840, is confirmed.

No. 103 of 1841.—The following Native promotions are made:—

25th Regiment Native Infantry.

Jemedar Sirdar Sing to be Subedar, and Color Havildar Sillamanjee Israel to be Jemedar, in succession to Bhowany Waney deceased,—Date of Rank 1st January 1841.

No. 139 of 1841.—The Honorable the Governor in Council is pleased, as a special case, to grant Lieutenant Henry Creed, of the Artillery, a furlough to Europe, for one year, on urgent private affairs.

Bombay Castle, 2nd March 1841.

No. 140 of 1841.—Lieutenant Preedy, Sub-Assistant Commissary General, resumed charge of the Commissariat and Bazar Departments at Kurrachee, from Lieutenant Cristall, on the 1st ultimo.

By order of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council,
P. M. MELVILL, Lieut. Col. *Secy to Govt.*

COURT MARTIAL ON BREVET MAJOR SMITH OF THE BENGAL ENGINEERS.

The Court assembled this morning at ten o'clock, and the following officers were sworn in.

Colonel FOSTER WALKER, *President.*

MEMBERS.

Lieut. Col. Craigie, H. M.'s 55th Regiment.
Lieut. Col. Yates, 51st Regiment N. I.
Major Garstin, Bengal Engineers.
Major Wood, Bengal Artillery.
Major Marshall.
Major Fawcett, H. M.'s 15th Regiment.
Major Blake, Artillery.
Captain Brind, Horse Artillery.
Captain Abbott, Engineers.
Captain Horner, H. M.'s 55th.
Captain Gray, 18th N. I.
Captain Greene, Engineers.
Captain Young, H. M.'s. 55th.
Captain Coats, H. M.'s 55th.

Prosecutor, Major Davidson of the Engineers.

Major Mactier, Deputy Judge Advocate General.

Attorney for the defence, Mr. Sandes.

Counsel for the defence, J. F. Leith, Esq.

After the usual preliminaries, the Deputy Judge Advocate General read the charges which are as follow:

Charges preferred by Major Chas. J. C. Davidson of the Engineers, against Major Edward Innes Smith of the Engineers.

1st.—For conduct highly disgraceful to his character as a staff officer, in fraudulently withholding and concealing from the Military Board the report of a Special Committee, held on the 11th of June 1838, on one of the standing bridges on the fortress of Allahabad, which it was his bounden duty to have transmitted to the Military Board.

2d.—For gross and scandalous neglect of duty in Superintending Engineer C. Pro., in merely patching up the work which the above Special Committee recommended to be renewed.

3d.—For conduct highly disgraceful to the character of an officer and gentleman in falsely and slanderingly stating to Lieut. Sharp of the corps of Engineers, with the intention of injuring my professional character, that I had cut down the wood on the Ganges end of Allahabad, without his authority.

4th.—For conduct highly disgraceful to his character as an officsr and a gentleman in falsely and slanderingly asserting to the Military Board or its individual members, or officiating Secretary for their information, with the iutent of injuring my professional character, and getting me removed from the 6th Division P. W., that I had done all in my power to hinder and obstruct him in the execution of his duty or words to that effect.

5th.—For conduct disgraceful to the character of an officsr and gentleman in falsely asserting with a view to my professional injury and pecuniary loss, in his letter No. 1349, dated 1st July 1840, that the loss which I had declared that I had sustained by the misconduct of Mr. Conductor Kirwan, in my letter No. 203, dated 30th Nov. 1839, was included in the rates of my bill for the erection of the buildings, for the use of the Oude Auxiliary force at Sultanpore.

6th.—For conduct highly disgraceful to his character as an officer and gentleman in causing me to be furnished with a certain false document styled 'memo. of advances' (to which his initials were affixed) with the view of compelling or inducing me to receive it, and give credit to him for the amount of Rs. 11,765-9-11¾ and of thereby, defrauding Government of the same by my agency.

The witnesses in this case are rather numerous. They are, for the prosecution, Cotonel Macleod, Engineers, D. Macfarlane, Esq. Chief Magistrate, Major Irvine, C. B. Engineers; Brigadier Whish, Artillery, Col. Fiddes, Capt. Dyke Artillery, Serjeants Brooke, Robertson and Berrill; and Mr. Scarlett, Superintending Engineer's office.

The witnesses for the defence, are Capt. Smythe, Engineers, Capt. Hickman, Fort Adjutant, Allahabad; J. Card, Esq., Deputy Collector; Sergents O'Callaghan, Rooke and Brooke. —*Englishman, February* 20.

Military Arrivals and Departures.

ARRIVALS.

March 2d.—Capt. Spencer, 2d E. Lt. Infy., from Poonah.
do. 3d. Ensign G. Shum, 5th Regt., from Kurrachie.
do. do. Lieut. F. C. Wells, 15th Regt., from England.

DEPARTURES.

March 1st.—Capt. Gidley, 11th Regt. N. I., to Mahabulishwar.
do. 3rd. Lieut. D. Davidson, 18th Regt., to Nassick.
do. do. Major Stack, to Allegaum.
do. do. Lieut. T. E. Stone, 24th Regt. N. I., to Mahabulishwar.
do. do. Lieut. A. Vaillant, Staff, to Belgaum.
do. do. Lieut. W. Brassey, 2d E. Regt.
do. 4th. Capt. G. E. Erskine, P. A. Horse, to Seroor.

Marine Department.

NOTIFICATION.

Notice is hereby given, that it is the intention of the Honorable the Governor in Council, to despatch a Steamer, with a Mail for Suez, on Thursday the 1st of April next.

By order of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council,
P. M. MELVILL, Lieut. Col. *Secy. to Govt.*
Bombay Castle, 5th February 1841.

Bombay Castle, 26th February 1841.

No. 21 of 1841.—Lieutenant A. H. Gordon, is allowed a furlough to Europe, for three years, for the recovery of his health.

No. 22 of 1841.—Commander A. S. Williams Timber Agent on the Malabar Coast, is allowed leave of absence, to visit the Presidency, for a period of one month, agreeably to the Regulations.

By order of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council.
P. M. MELVILL, Lieut. Col. *Secy. to Govt.*

Shipping Arrivals and Departures.

ARRIVALS.

March. 4th, Ship Jehangier, H. Hadley, Master, from Singapoor 18th January, Penang 27th Jan. Ceylon 9th Feb. and Allepy 18th February.

SAILED.

March. 3rd, Ship Bombay Castle, D. Baxter, Master, to China.

Shipping in the Harbour.

R. I. C. VESSELS.	E. I. C. STEAMERS.
Receiving Ship Hastings.	Satellite.
SCHOONERS	Indus.
Taptee.	Auckland.
Royal Tiger.	Cleopatra.
BRIG.	Zenobia.
Palinurus.	Hugh Lindsay.

Merchant Vessels.

ENGLISH.

Charles Grant.	British Merchant.
Hugh Walker.	Hope.
Thomas Coutts.	Simon Taylor.
Sir Edward Paget,	Champion.
Urania.	Chieftain.
Earl of Balcarras.	Wave.
Reliance.	Lancaster.

COUNTRY.

Cauderbux.	Rattler.
Pittamber Savoy,	Corsair.
Caroline.	Mary Gordon.
Colonel Newal.	Hindostan.
Essavie.	Arab.
Maria.	Dronagan.
Ruby.	Bopoolay.
Fanny.	Yatch Prince Rigent.
Hydroose.	Asia.
Alexander Robertson	Amoody.
Ruparell.	Dawlut Savoy.
Hamoody.	Agnes.
Nassry (Imaum of Muscat	Jehangier.
Caroline (Do.)	Wild Irish Girl.
Sophia.	Malik-ool-Bahr.
Cady Grant.	Cursetjee Cawasjee.
FRENCH.	PORTUGUESE.
LaAdele.	Brig (War) Cassador Africano.
Josephine.	
ARAB.	Barque Marquis of Hastings.
Harsingar.	Brig Simplicia.
Lodense.	
Hamonshaw.	
Shawen Shaw.	
Fezrabany..	

CORRESPONDENCE.

DRAFT ACT OF THE BUGGY WALLAHS

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BOMBAY GAZETTE.

DEAR SIR,—It must, no doubt afford you infinite satisfaction to find that your honest and untiring exertions for the public welfare in the matter of legalizing the hire of the Hamalls, Buggy and Boat Wallahs, &c. &c. of this our Island of Bombay, are now in a fair way of being shortly crowned with complete success.—The Legislative drones at Calcutta having at last graciously condescended to take our oft-complained-of grievances into their sapient noddles, and come out with the draft of a proposed Act, which is I presume, intended to supply the means of redress in cases wherein malpractice or extortion can be proved against the several parties of whom honorable and dishonorable mention is alike made therein. There, however, appears to be an important omission in this draft Act, for, although power is granted to impose fines of 20 and 30 Rupees in certain cases, yet there is no clause by which such fines can be *enforced* nor any penalty for their non-payment. As this defect, may be the means of producing much inconvenience should the Act be found in the manner it is now framed, it is but proper that the omission should at once be prominently brought to the notice of those who have the power to rectify it, and as you have all along been the staunch advocate of a wholesome law on the subject, you may perhaps feel inclined to take editorial notice of it, in such wise as will be most likely to ensure a proper act being passed, instead of the present rather bungling affair.

I perceive also, that, by the 4th Clause, or Section, the Court of Petty Sessions are empowered to fix the rates to be hereafter charged for conveyances, and which are to be subject to the approval of Government. This may be all very right, as far as it goes, but it is most sincerely to be hoped that no rates of their recommendation will be approved until the sense of a Committee, selected from all grades and classes of Society, has first been obtained upon them. If we are to be indebted for rates of charge, to men whose notions of the intrinsic value of a Rupee are for the most part as crude as might be expected, from parties who never previously heard of the existence of such a coin, we shall, I fear, have very little reason to congratulate ourselves on the passing of an act which all have, for so long a time, been anxiously seeking.

Trusting that these matters will obtain from you some remark of a nature likely to ensure some benefit to the humbler classes of this place.

I remain Dear Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
A PEDESTRIAN.

3d *March* 1841.

THE SECRETARIAT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BOMBAY GAZETTE.

SIR,—As there is a certain practice very prevalent in the Secretariat, which if not checked in due time bids fair to become a positive nuisance, its exposure through the medium of your widely circulated Journal, will I dare say have the effect of drawing the attention of the *proper authorities* to the subject, in order to the application of some *effectual* remedy.

The practice I allude to, and the operation of which is felt to be so irksome by many is, that of Head Clerks arrogating to themselves the Office of CRITICS, with reference to the drafting of letters, and assuming, the right of correcting, revising, altering and transposing the several paragraphs of a letter, which is merely a verbatim transcript of the minute of Government.

A friend of mine with whom I was conversing the other day on the subject, assured me that the

practice was discontinued in the Revenue Department, in consequence of an apparently singular proceeding on the part of one of the assistants, who took it into his head, in drafting a Despatch to the Court of Directors, which is nothing more than a summary of the proceedings of Government) to address them with, "We have the honor to transmit to you the papers *noted*, *quoted* and *cited* in the margin." The Secretary very naturally enquired into the cause of the insertion of these Synonisms, and was told in reply that as it was difficult to foretell which of the words would have the honor of being nominated to the invidious post, three synonimous ones were offered for selection, so as to ensure the retention of at least one of them.

Perhaps the occurrence of a similar incident in the other Departments of the Secretariat would lead to the offensive practice being entirely exploded, and I would recommend to this end that some Clerk of the *Judicial Department*, in authorizing the trial of prisoners, to use the words "*perpetrated*, *committed*, *effected*, *accomplished*, *consumated*, *&c.*"

Yours obedient,
RORY MORE.

Bombay, 1st March,

"*Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in Malice.*'

THE GAZETTE.

Friday, March 5, 1841.

ARRIVED March 4, Ship *Jehangier*, H. Hadley Master, from Singapore 18th January.

AN inquest was held yesterday afternoon on the Body of a Corporal of Artillery who had been found dead on his Bed in the early part of the morning—when a verdict was returned that deceased had died by the visitation of God.

WE publish a letter from "A PEDESTRIAN" containing some observations on the late Act "regulating the Hire of Boatmen, Hamals, &c. &c." If a Legislative enactment imposes a fine, any member of the Legislature, such as a Magistrate, is competent to imprison, when such fine is not paid. As for aCommittee composed of all grades, we are rather inclined to leave the matter to the Court of Petty Sessions, tho' we think the suggestion worthy of consideration more particularly as both European and Native Gentlemen compose that Court, therefore no favour or affection can be supposed to exist.

OUR *Overland Dispatch* of Monday containing a precis of Monthly Intelligence up to the 28th February, in all sixty columns, was not out of print till Ten O'clock. One hour after that of our Brother of the *Times*, and this was not occasioned, by it being out of Type, but on account of the immense demand that there was for our Extra, in fact so much so, that on the Pressman striking, we don't exactly recollect, the how many thousandth Copy, the Press itself gave way, being completely worn out. We are now having it repaired and will take great care that it shall be so, so effectually, until our great Steam Press come out with a 1500 Horse Power that will throw off 50 millions of Copies for the whole world ! !, so as to prevent the least likelihood or possibility of a similar disastrous occurrence ! ! ! ! ! ! !

[COMMUNICATED.]

THE ACCELERATING COMPANY.

The Directors and general body of Proprietors of this Company. having thro' the dilatoriness of the delivery of letters received by the last Overland, and in the daily issue of papers and letters from the Post Office from up country Correspondents, been put to great inconvenience, have deemed it advisable to submit to a discerning public, a few regulations, which they are in expectation will greatly conduce to remedy the evil and effect a permanent cure of that slothful, sluggardly, somnolent disease which now adheres itself to all classes of Society in Bombay.

The Directors beg to state that they have engaged, a quick, sharp, go tight practical man, who has been known to run a mile, ride a mile, walk a mile, make fifteen speeches at fifteen different topics of public interest, write twenty articles for twenty distinct papers, besides numerous other deeds all within the hour,—as their manager. Whose whole time and attention will be devoted to the interests of the Accelerating Company.

The objects of the Company are to entirely supersede and extinguish the present monotonous life, people lead in Bombay and effect a general change, their moto "sharps the word quick the motion," will be engraven in large letters and stuck round the Turban or hat of every servant belonging to the Company.

It is proposed that a number of men shall be stationed in different parts of the Island engaged to accelerate by every means in their power all the slothful, somnolent beings that may pass them, and that the name of such entertained shall be the "Peep O'day Boys.

That, that mighty engine of public opinion, The *Times*, the High and Mighty *Times*, shall be the Journal selected as the best of all others to extend the puff direct, should there be one required, to increase the wealth and prospects of the Company. That the Company commence operations in the Island of Bombay on the 1st day of April next, to expedite the peons of the mighty *Times*, in circulating their Overland Extra, so that it may be out of type at five in the morning of the day of publishing instead of eleven,—and that should it on enquiry prove true, that the *Gazette* Peons had so much to do last Overland Dispatch day, that their Havildar and eight wore out twelve pairs of shoes each, and two completely lost the use of their legs, that such additional assistance, as shall be found necessary be rendered them. That on the arrival of the Steamer in April, Accelerators shall be stationed at the different Bunders and sent on board, to obtain the heads of news for the High and Mighty *Times*, and hasten to publish it within one minute after the vessel coming to anchor.

And that "this Company's Servants" shall on the letter boxes reaching the Post Office be entertained to continually dun the ears of the Post Master, and Assistants for the letters of the *Times*, and its Proprietors, until they all be delivered, and that a daily dunning at two shall take place to procure the up country letters.

Finally, it is believed that the objects herein detailed will effect the measures proposed.

WE have the pleasure of laying before our readers a detailed account of the taking of the Nepanee Fort by the Detachment from Belgaum under Major Vivian by an eye witness. An excellent plan was forwarded with it which we regret time will not allow us to give. It will be read with interest by our Military readers. We think it high time a l these strong holds in the Southern Marhatta Country should be dismantled, or small Garrisons of our Sepoys placed in them to prevent disturbances, like that which has lately occurred, and which cause much expence, trouble and loss of valuable life without any glory to the Army or advantage to the State.

On the 19th February the Force arrived at this place much disapointed at having had no brush on the road, with some Pindarees whom we were told had been employed by the Garrison to plunder and annoy us on the Line of March.

On approaching the Fort to take up a position to the eastward of it, the Rifle Company and some of the 4th "King's Own" were thrown out to the left, and after proceeding some short distance along the bed of a nulla, occupied some unfinished buildings some 5 or 6 hundred yards from the Fort, and from which some Matchlock men slowly retired, as we approached and without firing a shot seated themselves on the Glacis eyeing the "Tomasha" they had previously determined not to fire the first shot. Our position having been taken up about 12 P. M. fatigue parties were ordered out to throw up a breastwork before, and level the ground for the mortars which by sunset was completed. During this time Captain Hall and the Commanding Officer reconnoitered the Fort, which was found to be remarkably strong, nothing of moment occurred during the night, but at 4 A. M. the men, who had been ordered to be ready accoutred, and had been so the whole night, were quietly desired to "fall in" and (24 Artillery Men, the Light Company of 4th K. O., a Rifle Company of 26th Native Infantry and Grenadier Company of the 18th Regiment Native Infantry) went off with a 9 Pounder to the eastern side by one of "Paddy, short cuts" on approaching the principal Gate, the front of it was found occupied by a considerable number of the enemy who after a sharp fire, and some cold steel, had been administered, were driven in.

The Infantry having taken up a position under the Walls of a Court yard, the Gun was run up, a part of the Wall having been thrown down, so as to command the Batteries, it commenced raking them, whilst the Light Bobs and Rifles continued sniping from the tops, and eaves, of Houses. The Mortar Battery had now commenced operations and doing its duty in excellent style, towards evening, some sheds in which the enemy had crowded, having been pretty well riddled, and the curtain above the Gate, and other works having been knocked to smithereens, the fire slackened, nay almost terminated. A Serjeant of the Artillery having observed three Guns still in statu quo on the Glacis, exclaimed "Ough Blood and Thunder an ouns Boy" they 'd be after turning em on us in de night, hurra Boys let's dismount em," and rushed out accompanied by four dashing fellows, who before you could hardlysay "by your lave," took a wheel off each, and turned the whole up side down. As a heavy fire was kept up on them whilst doing it, you must allow this was a daring act, but they were not long over their work, and were soon safe amongst their comrades.

Yet as daring a one, in my opinion was the bringing two Men of the Kings Own, from under the very muzzles of the enemy's Guns, who had been shot early in the morning, their comrades now volunteered to fetch them, and with one consent a few of them joined for the purpose, one of them exclaiming "ah then Misther, aint it a burning shame to let them poor boys be lying out in the sun so long, they were shot afore breakfast time, and now must be blistered to pieces with brain fever, so they must, come along, but some of ye, cover us, boys. On reaching the poor fellows we were overjoyed that one of them was still living, although he had been lying five or six hours in the Sun, (and I am happy to say is still alive, and likely to do well).

The sniping and shelling continued at intervals until the following evening when the Garrison surrendered ; Neepawney for its size, is one of the strongest Forts I have seen in India, annexed is a rough plan, and section of it. It is said to have been built by a French Engineer, nothing could surpass the cool and gallant conduct of our Troops on this occasion, Officers and Men vieing with each other, in the execution of their duty, and obedience to commands. I shall give you one instance, Sergeant Willis, of the Artillery having gone with an officer into one of the Bastions, to reconnoitre, detected a fellow in the act of levelling his piece at the latter, for which act of impertinence the Serjeant's cool conduct repaid him, by sending a Ball through him, which made him forget to pull his own trigger, this in my opinion, shews the benefit obtained by discipline.

The enemy kept up a rattling fire on the first evening, and until their Guns were dismounted, they shewed a good share of bravery, their loss must have been severe 70 or 80 at least killed and many wounded (23) some of which are at present in the Hospital in our Camp.

Upwards of (50) fifty pieces of Ordnance principally Brass were found in the Fort, about 70 Arabs are now under escort to Vingorla, and a number of the Natives of India, prisoners in the Camp.

RETURN OF KILLED AND WOUNDED AS ASCERTAINED UP TO 2 P. M. 20TH FEB.

CORPS.	KILLED	WOUNDED.	REMARKS.
Officers. †		1	Slightly.
Artillery....		1	Dangerously.
4th King's Own *.	1	5	1 Dangerously 2 Severely & 2 Slightly.
18th Native Infy..	1	1	Severely.
26th Ditto do.....	1	3	Slightly.
Camp Followers..	3	6	
Gun Bullocks.. ...		1	

* This plan we will reserve for another issue as it came too late to be lithographed.

† Lieut. Stevens 18th Regiment Native Infantry.

Major Vivian was slightly wounded in the hand.

WE have received our Files of Calcutta Papers to the 22nd, Madras to the 25th, and Ceylon to the 16th, of February. From the Calcutta *Englishman* we have extracted two highly interesting letters from Captain Anstruther and Mr. Vincent Stanton, the former of whom was still by the last accounts a Prisoner in the hands of the Chinese while the latter has only just escaped from "durance vile." The treatment of both, and of poor Mrs. Noble, appears at first to have been infamous, Heavy chains were put on them and they were shut up in Cages like Wild Beasts. Captain Austruthers narrative is excellent, and while we feel indignation at the cowardly and brutal conduct of the Chinese in murdering his poor lascar, we are highly pleased with the cheerfulness and equanimity under privations displayed by the gallant Captain. We trust long ere this that he and his Partners in Captivity have been released as well as Mr. Stanton, who also experienced similiar indignities.

The *Englishman* remarks on the present political state of Lahore, the anarchy that prevails, and the impossibility of Shere Singh retaining the Gadee without strong support from the British Government. He also ridicules the idea of the pregnaney of the Widow of Nao-Nehal Singh, but he gives no grounds for such disbelief, and says what we have all along advocated "If she were so the British Government "would undoubtedly support the rights "of the Infant to which she might "give birth leaving however the Seikhs "to form a regency themselves." Now of this time there can be no doubt. We know that in the East it is easy enough to foist a supposititious child on the World, but surely it will become the duty of the Anglo Indian Government, to make strict inquiry, and no doubt if such a claim be advanced, it must be well substantiated, before it is allowed. If no such child however be born. we look at the Lahore Gadee as vacant to all intents and purposes and the Anglo Indian Government at liberty to favor the pretensions of the Party most likely to be subservient to its own views. By placing Shah Shoojah on the throne of the Dooranee Empire as we all know he is a mere Puppet King we have another "*imperium in imperio*" to govern and defend. Now between us, as regards the Bengal Presidency and this Empire, lie the Seikh Territories. They stand in the way of our communications and without a very friendly and partial Government collision of a serious kind will constantly be liable to occur. Whatever Partizan we support we must bind down to us not only with the chains of gratitude, but force stronger than obligation, We must subsidize another Monarchy or give up our idea of aiding our Dooranee Ally effectually. Even now Shah Kamran and his Wuzeer Yar Mahommed are said to be arming against us. and intriguing to admit a Persian Army into Herat, while Shah Shoojah is reported to have been tampering with the Hill Tribes of Cutch Gundava, and Scinde, to keep our Armies amused in the low Countries below the Bolan Pass. All these reports are strong and in the event of an uproar in the North and North West of the Dooranee Empire we require and must have a safe passage for our Convoys from the Upper Provinces through the Punjaub. This must be secured at any risk, and all squeamishness and delicacy must give way before Political expediency. But we will go further than this and at the risk of being taxed with advocating wildly ambitious ideas we say plainly that the British in India will never be complete until the Seikhs also own our sway. Runjeet Singh was himself only a Hero of fortune. He was the representative of no ancient Dynasty and his posteriy have faded away like a dream. He was the despoiler of others and founded an Empire upon the ruin of several independent small states which had existed since the days of Narrock who in the 16th century founded their sect.

If no son be born to Now-Nehal Singh our Treaty with Runjeet has in Law Language "ceased and determined." The question then will be what is the best policy for ourselves? We have proceeded for years in a career of conquest and acquisition of Power in Hindoostan, our sway is universally admitted even by the Natives themselves to be wisely and well directed, our Territories are fertile and peaceful, our laws obeyed and security for life and property universal. On the contrary in the Seikh Territories all is lawless violence, anarchy and confusion, our frontiers are open to Seikh aggression and our present contented subjects may catch the contagion of revolt from licentious neighbours. It is then our duty to our own subjects as well as our interest to secure speedy and quiet rule in the Punjaub, and if it can be done by no other means we would say boldly to the Governor General march an Army into the heart of the Country, declare the English sway paramount make yourself obeyed, and let the new country pay the expences of the expedition. A few years would soon make the country as much ours as the Deccan and Concan are now, and very little more trouble than occurred in the War with the Peshwa or even so much would settle the whole question of the Seikh's in one smart Campaign, while we might point from the Himalayas to Cape Comorin, and from the Indus to the Ganges, and proudly boast the first united Empire of Hindoostan, for under the Mussulman sway the Viceroys themselves were Kings and continually in revolt, while the arts and civilization we might hope to introduce might in the great human scale weigh against the aggression of conquest, and plead even for the wildest aspirations of ambition and military glory.

AT length Calcutta rejoice in a New "Sans Souci" Theatre which to use a hackneyed simile has arisen Phœnix like from the ashes of the old Chowringhee. A dinner the invariable accompaniment of all solemn eventswas to take place on the Stage on the 27th of February, and glorious fun was expected. The Performances are to commence on the 4th of March with Sheridan Knowles', Comedy of "The Wife" and the Petite Comedy of "Charles the Second." The whole arrangements seem to be in a good style from the description given in the advertisement. The Boxes contain more than 250 chairs and the Pit will hold many more. Price of admission to the Boxes Rupees 6 and 3 Rupees to the Pit, for the first two performances after which a lower scale is to be adopted. We wish Mrs. Leach every success and only regret that we have no place like it in Bombay. However the good days may come yet, and we must wait for the answer to our Petition with patience, and then we shall fire away at the subject again. We have been twitted with being the Theatrical Journal and we will not earn a soubriquet for nothing. We rather conceive that to promote public amusement and good humour is quite as agreeable as the attempt "*To instruct the Public.*" The Bombay Public are a little too old and unruly for the ferula of the Pedagogue or the Dogmass of the Philosopher, The naughty boys ! !

CHINA.

CAPTAIN ANSTRUTHER'S CAPTIVITY.

(*Letter from Captain Anstruther, December 31st 1841, Ningpo Prison.*)

My dear——,——I wrote an account of how I was taken, and how I have since fared, which I know you will be kind enough to have copied and sent to my brother for transmission to my mother; I make it out from a little diary which I have kept ever since my arrival here. On Wednesday the 16th September, I started about 10 o'clock, to get the valleys on the left of the great north road from Tinghae put down accurately in my survey. I went about 1000 yards N. from the N. gate, of the Town, or perhaps 1200 yards. to where there are several houses and gardens, and from whence a road branches off to the Westward. I went along this road and ascended the pass between the Hills, then turned to the left getting up a knoll, from the top of which I got the bearings of K. (the centre Beacon on the E. side of Chusan Bay) and C. (the similar Beacon on the W. side of the Bay). Having fixed this point, I pitched a small Flag, and took bearings to the Flag Staff in front of Colonel Lloyd's tent (Bengal Volunteers) and Montgomerie's stone. To the Westward lay a long and pretty valley, by which I could get down to the level of ground which bears N. W. from our old camp, and by bringing round the right shoulder, keeping the foot of the Hill on my left, I should return to our tents. I am thus particular in naming the place and describing it, as I hope B——will take a dozen or two of our people, and go and burn the place where the rascals pinned me. He cannot miss it ; it is the valley which divided the Hill, on a spur of which the Cameronians were pitched, from the peaked Hill right in front of our Mess tent ; so go and pitch into them B——, and oblige yours sincerely—I'll do as much for you another time. I went down the Western side of the Pass, and in a very short time was sensible of my imprudence as the path goes past a Ghos house on the right, thick trees overhanging both sides of the narrow path, and making it quite dark. The Ghos house is in a walled garden full of large trees. I determined as soon as I got clear of this dark and dangerous looking place to retrace my steps, but on getting to the other end of the grove. I became aware that we were followed by a crowd of Chinamen. I took no notice, but turned to the left meaning to go up the hill again, keeping to the open ground. We had hardly turned, when a Chinese soldier rushed out from the crowd with a hoe in his hand, and struck at my old lascar, the only man with me. He avoided the blow and ran up to me in great alarm. I took from him the iron spud which he had used to pitch the Flag, and met the soldier and drove him back, but a number of others, with what they term spears (but from their double prongs we should call them pitchforks) charged me and my poor old man, and of course we had nothing for it but to run. I told the old man to run up the hill, and they would only follow me, but he refused to leave me. The armed people kept on the hill side to cut off my chance of getting up the hill, so I determined to attempt to force my way by the long valley. I am but a bad runner, and my poor old servant was worse, so I went slowly along the valley, turning now and then to keep the Chinese at bay. Meantime the whole population of the valley gathered with loud shouts in our front, and it was evidently a hopeless job. I could not get my old man to leave me and try to escape unnoticed, so we held on, and at a turn in the path which had now crossed to the S. side of the long valley (which lies E. and W.) I was opposed by a few scoundrels with sticks and stones. I charged them, and they got all round me, and then my poor old man ran back about 80 yards, where he was met by the crowd following us, and struck down. I have an inexpressible reluctance to write what follows, but must. I attempted to force my way towards him, but could not, and I saw the inhuman villains pounding his head with large stones as he lay with his face downwards. I cannot doubt that he died. His two sons are my Pensioners now at the Mount school, and of course my brother, or W—Mac T——, will see that their pension continues to be paid. I saw that attempt at flight was useless, and expecting a fate similar to that of my Lascar, I set to work to make the rascals pay for it and fought my best. Of course numbers prevailed, and I was sent down. Instead of dashing out my brains they set to work to tie my hands behind me, and my ankles together, tied a huge gag on my mouth, and then quietly took a large Bamboo, and hammered my knees just over the knee cap, to prevent the possibility of escape. I was then put in a palanquin, which was evidently kept ready for some such contingency, and we hurried off to the N. W. and fetched a circuit round to the S. W. angle of the Island of Chusan to a village about 10 miles W. of the Sapper's Point, as I judge from seeing about 5 miles E. of me a Beacon which is visible from the Beacon above the Sappers' Camp. Here we waited till night fall, my conductors comforting me by repeating the word Ningpo, and drawing their hand across their throats. At about 7 P. M. we got into a boat with a cover, and I lay down and slept. About midnight, as I should guess, I was awakened, and told to get out of the boat, my ankles were set free, a chain put round my neck and I was obliged to walk although my legs were hardly able to bear me, and my head ached dreadfully from two cuts I had received in the skirmish over the skull. I think they were dealt with hoes, but

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am not sure. We travelled all night in a S. W. direction, and all the next day till about one o'clock, when we reached the banks of a river, and got into a boat. About 2 hours rowing with the stream brought us into Ningpo, where we landed and I went in a palanquin to the Mandarians of Ningpo outer city or 'Heen.' Here, I was examined as to the number of Ships, Men, and other particulars of our state at Chusan, the Interpreter being Poo King Pon, the Comprador who was seized at Chusan about a fortnight after our landing. I was fed and sent to a prison prepared for me by the removal of the four Chusan Mandarins, who had been confined by the Emperor's order for allowing the English to land at Chusan. I may here mention that the *Wellesley's* first broadside mortally wounded the naval Mandarine, and the first shell fired on shore killed the Setpun (Letpun) or Chief Mandarine of the Island, and these two deaths had struck great terror into the Mandarines every where, as they believed we aimed at them, so M——may enjoy the credit of killing the chief. In the prison I was forced to get into a cage of which I will shew you the sketches, with wooden bars, one yard long, one yard high, and two feet wide outside the bars. A ring was put round my neck (of iron) and my hands put in handcuffs locked to a stick about one foot long which was fastened to my neck ring. Very heavy leg irons had been put on me at the Mandarins', in consequunce I supposed, of the abominably exaggerated account my conductors gave of my resistance, by way of shewing their own valour in taking so fierce a warrior. These irons weighed I think 18lbs, and I wore them for four weeks. In this horrid little cage a chain was locked on to my log-irous, and a Jailor slept with a light close to me, so I think it would have puzzled Jack Sheppard to escape. Next day I went again to the Mandarines', and in course of conversation he asked about our Steamers; I offered to draw one for him and did it, he became civil and friendly, and gave the comprador and myself a good dinner, after which I got some hot water and washed off some of the blood and dirt of the struggle, found my head handsomely laid open to the bone, my legs and arms covered with bruises, but no wound of any consequence, and the very judicious *diet* of the prison soon cured all the bangs and bruises.

On the 19th and 20th. I again went to the Tagius (Tazin) and the latter day met there 7 other prisoners from whom I heard of the wreck of their ship, the *Kite*, and their capture. The Mandarines became more and more friendly in their manner towards me, and on this day ordered a a bigger cage for me; my new one was 3 feet 6 by 21. This was comparative comfort and was the fruit of my drawing for the Mandarines, a Map of Chusan bay, town and suburb, with ships and tents; next day I was told to draw a Map of London and did it; Westminster Abbey, St. Pauls', Windsor Castle, and Buckingham Palace very well situated for viewing all four! Next day I had to draw a Map of England, shewing Mail Coaches and cattle somewhat larger than cities or towns: this day (22d) I met Lt. Douglas *R. N.* of the *Kite*, and a nephew of my friend and neighbour, Keith Douglas of Grangemeir in Fife. He was in a small cage and very much worse off than I, being in a worse prison: next day Mrs. Noble, wife of the Captain of the '*Kite*' who with his child was lost in the wreck was brought to Ningpo with Mr. Wilts, chief officer of that ship. The lady was put in a cage in the next cell to mine, chained like me, only the irons were lighter, and so by the bye where those of Douglas, Wilts the Marines and sailors. We went every day to the Mandarines to answer all sorts of foolish chaildish questions: ex. gr. 'what relation was Mrs. Noble to the Queen of England?'; our ages and the state of our families, our pay and a thousand other things were the daily subject of cross questioning. On Monday the 28th September came a change; Douglas, Wilts and I were moved into a new prison, a large room with a fine place to walk in, in front, the cages taken away, and good bedsteads placed for us, and all very much more comfortable, and better than all I got a letter from B——r, which shewed they knew where I was, and that the news would go to England, not as I feared an account of my death, but of a mere temporary imprisonment, just like the Sheriffs of Middlesex got from the House of Commons. From that date up to this present writing (January 2d 1841) we have had nothing to complain of, and very little to tell of. On Monday the 26th October we were all assembled at the head Mandarins', our iron struck off, and we were all to be free in 6 days. He also gave me a letter from M——, and 4 chests of beer, cheroots, clothes, wine, brandy and other slight refreshments. As we believed the Mandarins as to the 6 days, we set to work and lived jollily, and the Beer, &c. &c. did not last long: our life was now pleasant enough, I had writing materials and plenty of leisure, so I set to work to ornament the walls of my prison with drawings of my 18 pounds gun and other diagrams connected with the noble science of Gunnery; I flatter myself I have set forth the true theory of recoil in a new and striking light, and will astonish the Artillery world with a Treatise on Carronades, which will make W——bite the finger of vexation with the tooth of envy. I had to draw portraits of all the Mandarins, pictures of Admiral Elliot, Captain Elliot, the Queen and a thousand other things, & so the weary weary times passes slowly away. On the above day we received from Admiral Elliot, 300 dollars, with part of which we purchased winter clothing for all, and some decent cloths for the lady; a month passed and I got another letter from B——, with beer, wine, brandy, flannel and warm clothing, and the time passed heavily till the 17th Dec. when an ugly vagabond came to the grated door and slipped into my hand a private note from M——; up to this date, though we had written very often the Mandarins never sent our notes, but we now wrote by this man (Blondel de Westa) and asked for a bible, knife, and other things. On the 29th Dec. I received the bible and knife, and wrote this account to be ready for Blondel's next visit, so I will put this by and write out the account of the *Kite's* wreck. I need hardly say how gratified It feel to M——, B——r, B——w, G—— and all Blues and Sappers for their kind and constant recollection of me. We hope soon to be free, and only want freedom to be perfectly happy, as neither I nor Douglas have had a minute's sickness, nor have we been (nor will we be) down hearted for a minute; we are told now that in about 10 days we shall be free.

P. ANSTRUTHER.

INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM CAPT. ANSTRUTHER'S MAN IN CONSEQUENCE OF QUESTIONS PUT TO HIM BY DIRECTION OF THE CHIEF MAGISTRATE.

The three British Officers are in the Barracks, but the lady is in the prison of the women, the distance between both is very short.

There are about nine soldiers that watch them outside, and about eight inside, eleven of whom are my intimate friends and belong to my gang, they can be bought over, so also the guard boats; which are managed by poor people, and are under obligations to me for medical assistance.

I am able to take them on board a boat and rescue them, the prison is near the river side.

The place where the sailors are imprisoned is more exposed to public view, and I should not venture in the first instance to liberate them, but wait until I have accomplished the one exploit, and then we may again take measures.

Perhaps the district magistrate who owes more than 10,000 taels to Government as he is a poor man, and the empire is now upon the point of going to wreck, he himself will be anxious to get some money, leave his office and run away, I do not think that would be attended with any difficulty.

Appoint a vessel to anchor at 'Heapoo,' send letters to your officers, and inform them of the preparations that have been made for their release, let them be all ready towards that time, and immediately embark.

From 40 to 50 Dollars to the guards, and 100 to those inside would be sufficient to buy them over.

My own reward I leave to your generosity and should stipulate as a particular favor to permit my relation the owner of the timber yard to remove his things, in reward for my services.

Translation by the Reverend C. Gutzlaff.
(Sd.) W. CAINE, CAPTAIN
Chief Magistrate.

Chief Magistrate's Office,
Tinghae, 4th Jan. 1841.

[*Eastern Star, Feb.* 21.

NARRATIVE OF MR. STANTON'S IMPRISONMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CANTON REGISTER.

My dear Sir,—In reply to your kind enquiries I am happy to send for the pages of your widely circulated journal, a brief narrative of my late captivity and imprisonment; and gladly do I avail myself of the opportunity afforded by making a public acknowledgement for the kind interest that has been felt in my circumstances. To my fellow countrymen who made so many exertions,—as a plea, availing themselves of the relation of that 'sacred calling' in which I had stood to them during the absence of a chaplain—and to the Portuguese and foreign community generally, I beg to offer my warmest expressions of gratitude.

A boat had anchored during the night under the hill which forms the northern enclosure of Cassilia's Bay, and twelve armed Chinese from it had secreted themselves among the neighbouring rocks. On the morning of the 6th of August, generally among the first bathers, I was earlier than usual, and was dressing on the beach, as the dawn was just becoming apparent, when I found myself surrounded by these men, and their swords, concealed in their sleeves until within a few yards, flashed upon me. I was immediately a prisoner, and carried by hands and feet into their boat: two or three blows on the head had caused a flow of blood, but were not serious. Watch had been kept above to give notice of the approach of other foreigners, but probably, none were outside the walls of the town at the time. At sunset being handed up on deck, I found myself within the Bogue. There two officers took charge, one dignified with a crystal, and the other with a golden, ball; and with these, still accompanied by my captors as guards, I was taken on board a government boat.

The next morning about seven we reached Canton; the prisoner was landed under the beating of gongs led by a heavy chain round his neck, preceded and followed by his guards, their swords drawn. In a large open court, belonging to one of the government offices, the late Viceroy, lieut.-governor, and several of their civil and military subordinates were found already convened. Questioning soon commenced through the lingnists, and continued at intervals throughout the forenoon, the questions relating at first exclusively to my personal history and employments, every circumstances particularly which could be evidence of my having or not engaged in the opium traffic. I had been informed at the bogue that my seizure was by the particular order of the Viceroy though nothing transpired to shew that I had been marked, except as offering, alone and early on the shore, a sure and easy prey; not even my name was known.

By noon they were satisfied of the truth of my statements, and the great body of mandarins dispersed; after this, too, nothing more was seen of other appearances which had led me to expect, as I have since been informed, that my life would have been taken on that day.

About five in the afternoon I underwent a more regular examination before the prefect of the city, a deputed officer from the Viceroy, and others, the deputy questioning from written directions. The questions previously asked were repeated; an account was required of the taking of Chusan—respecting this the Canton government had received accounts from two sources, the Macao papers and their brethren at Ningpo, as we might expect, not agreeing well;—other more unimportant collisions on the coast; the particulars of the Eaglish force at that time arrived; resources of England and our estimation of the Chinese navy; number of English residents in Macao, their objects, the present state of the trade, &c.

On some points I was not accurately informed, as with regard to the merchant shipping, trade, &c., and said so. On other points free answers were given, but detached altogether from feelings of hostility: I took paius to convince these Chinese magistrates that I really possessed good will towards their nation. Also care was taken to avoid all appearance of disposition to 'barbarian fierceness,—an instance, of this and its effect—I considered it proper and more clearly prudent to kneel before my examiners. I was only allowed to do so during my first examination, and when first brought before the new Viceroy. On all other occasions when the motion was made, it was politely prevented, and the third time that I was brought up, a chair was provided, I would here mention that throughout further than such confinement as was considered necessary to prevent attempts to escape or desperate violence, I experienced no ill-treatment. On the contrary the greatest consideration and respect were shown by all from the highest to the lowest of those at different times about me. I cannot forbear to mention one instance of feeling. Of the men who took me there was one apparently less moveable than the rest. It was soon however perceived to be merely in appearance,—the man was of a sombre cast, and may not often have smiled in his life, he soon began to watch his captive with the deepest interest. That man when delivering me in charge on the evening of the second day to others who might be less kindly, earnestly pressed me to accept some cash from his slender means, which might, he said, procure some little comforts he had, while permitted, himself seen supplied.

After the first regular examination, in the evening of the 7th of August, a respite of an hour was given; the next hour was occupied in cross questioning, myself then standing and soon after this was satisfactorily undergone, it was decided that the youthful foreigner should be committed to the great prison of the Nanbae district. This I entered at nine or ten o'clock the same night and there remained until the evening of December the 10th. Immediately a chain, allowing of only a short step, was fastened by iron rings above my ankles: and to this were added manacles to my wrists and a chain found my neck whenever about to be brought before a magistrate. All this is customary with Chiuese prisoners.

In the room assigned me four of the inferior officers of the prison abode, one of whom was exchanged next day for a linguist, who did the part of comprador. The hong merchants were charged with providing clothes, food, servant, &c. My fellow prisoners were permitted to lend Chinese books, but nothing from without could find entrance until after the late Viceroy's degredation, when a Bible and Prayer book were kindly sent me, as also constant supplies of food and clothing, by the American gentlemen resident in Canton. To them I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude. Until liberated, I was kept in almost total ignorance as to what was passing without, being for three months under the belief that friends at Macao supposed me to have been drowned.

On the 10th of August, and on two other occasions, the enquiries from the Viceroy, through his deputy or others, were continued.

Among the subjects brought forward, the following seem the most interesting.

The Geography of Europe, Asia and Africa was fully canvassed. At one time I could fancy the adventurous commissioner giving orders to the hong merchants for a fleet of junks to coast between rocks and round headlands from this to London with an imperial embassy to Her Brintanic Majesty on board. Of course the captive speculated on being promoted to the sinecure post of pilot in the imperial service. At another time he was to be the guide of the great ambassadors through Central Asia and Europe, a more desirable task in some degree either would have provided some little time for 'delay.' However it was soon apparent that their minds had been somewhat troubled about their western frontier. The time in which Chinese Tartary can be reached from Engladd, the geographical and political relations of England and Russia, the countries between them, and between Russia and India, my examiners were very particular about. Tibet was evidentley their main concern, though it was amusing to see the way in which mention of it was avoided, and questions asked about the countries near it. It is remarkable that nothing was said about the southern frontier and dangers from our Indian possessions; we may conclude the more surely that they are wide awake there.

On some subjects they had exaggerated notions; a Chinese examiner does not generally trouble himself on such occasions, and a little openness has a good effect. His excellency had supposed that along with Herat the whole of Persia had become subject to Britain, and was pleased to be corrected.

Translations of parts of Murray's Cyclopedia of Geography, which it is well known have been made in Canton, were on the table, and with these my deposition was compared.

The moving Lin wanted instruction in the principle of the steam engine. All present seemed to comprehend it, and took much interest. One other mandarin sent afterwards to my quarters for a repetition of the lesson. The action of the piston rod was easy, but a draught of an ordinary engine, about which moreover I should myself have had some trouble, more if I had been set to instruct Chinese blacksmiths in the way of making it, would have puzzled even Lin's piercing eyes. Such an impudent speech of course could not be addressed to such dignity, and the man and piston rods were connected in more simple fashion than might have encountered smiles of an experienced engineer to be put in practice, or rather attempted. I could fancy, for the great innovator of Chinese 'custom.'

You well known that your paper is read in the governor's palace; none published after my move from Macao were shown me, but in an extra published a few days before, there was a long extract from the *Spectator* far beyond the comprehension of the learned interpreter; the foreigner's aid was called in. A mandarin 'must' ask not only the meaning of sentences, but to be sure of coming at the truth of every word, and thus I worked on my way. The Chinese hav'nt works in their language, or ideas in their minds, to represent the situation and objects of a speaker in the British parliament, and you would have been amused at the circumlocutions and laying of ground work called for at every step. In about half an hour we had fairly finished the first paragraph of three lines and a half. I was not altogether sorry to find my friends by this time tired, and the informant being very communicative and willing to proceed they took his words that the whole mysterious piece was of the same nature and dismissed him.

The most interesting of all, upon which my assistance was required was the case of the French missionary and his Chinese companion taken in October endeavouriug to proceed up the river of Canton.

There were besides in the same prison with myself a lascar and a Macao caffre. The former had run away from his ship and was seized on Lintin or an island near it in July. In prison he was well taken care of at the charge of the Consoo house.

The caffre had been taken at Heangshan in a Chinese dress. He was treated in all respects as a Chinese prisoner.

On Thursday, December the 10th, I was brought before Keshen, from him received every expression of sympathy and favour, and was relieved from my chains and irons.

Having spent the night at the palace, in the morning I took leave of Canton accompanied by two officers and in a chair as handsome as their own to the great horror, no doubt, of any 'of the old school' who may have witnessed the desecration.

The next morning, December the 12th, I ascended the sides of H. B. M. Ship *Wellesley*, Commodore Sir J. J. B. Bremer, and was received most kindly by himself and Captain Elliot, by whom I was reassured of what I had been told by Keshen himself, that my liberation had been in consequence of particular application, and I understood unconditionally. I cannot sufficiently express my sentiments of gratitude to these gentlemen and to Captain Smith and others.

My dear Sir, I had for a moment stopt. I had felt delicate about expressing a Christian's feelings unreservedly,—or rather a difficulty about the manner of expressing them in a secular publication. I would desire, though it may be not fully successful, to say what I say with judgment.

I would acknowledge then thus prominently the good hand of my all powerful and ever gracious God upon me for good, throughout my apparently perilous captivity.

Again, I have lately been on the threshold of eternity. For thirty hours there seemed little prospect of again meeting in Macao the friends whom I love, as I have been permitted to do this day. The instrument and stepping stones to death were continually before my eyes: on the morning of the 7th of August I heard what I thought at the time was my death-warrant read; and a few hurried strides would have placed me within the portals. If I say that I was happy in this situation, and it seem instruction, bear with me. Some of your readers had heard me express such hopes as these, or principles and knowledge that a failure then would have proved insincere and imaginary, I remembered them at that hour; the immortal souls of those for whom I had concern were seen, the future becoming present, in the valley of death. But some seemed to tremble, fearfully did they tremble; yes, I saw some burst, before their turn, with the swellings of despair. Oh, if any would take a word from one who has but just left such a scene who has experienced in his own heart peace, even joy before the once dismal throne of the kink of Terrors, whose nerves have shrunk from the headsman's sword, and been sileneed to a calm as heaven for his eternal dwelling place was opened to his view; if any will believe a report from such an enemy who causes you a momentary pain—ah, talk not of a more conveuient season, and that day find you unawares.

But I must not here say so much. In concluding I would again endeavour to express my feelings of gratitude for the concern and kindness which have been elicited. I believe I shall associate with my return to Macao in December, 1840, every kindness that it may be my happy lot to meet with to the end of my life, and desire to continue in sincerity.

VINCENT STANTON.

Macao, Dec. 14, 1840.

SYDNEY.

LAUNCESTON ADVERTISER, NOVEMBER 12.

SOMETHING EXTRAORDINARY.—There is in some of our colonial laws, such an unaccountable caution, and in others such culpable carelessness, that the stranger always carries away with him a very strong impression of the supreme ignorance of our legislators. But of all the curious precautionary means that we know of, the most so is one, of the existence of which we were only a few days since made aware. The chief mate of the *Patriot* was desirous of shipping on board the *Charles*, having obtained his discharge from the former vessel, with the consent of the captain. Upon application being made to Major Wentworth, he declared that it was necessary first to obtain the *sanction* of His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor; and that if Captain Brown of the *Patriot*, would write a letter, stating that the mate had obtained a proper discharge, he (Major Wentworth) would sent it to Hobart Town *for the approval of his Excellency*. In the mean time, as the *Charles* was on the point of sailing, he would allow the mate to go on board, so that no detention might take place, as the application to the Governor was only a *mere form*, and would be approved of as a *matter of course*. How truly ridiculous is this,—is it possible to conceive any thing more ludicrous? The Governor's sanction must be obtained "as a matter of form," and yet very possibly the vessel may be some leagues at sea before any reply is received. If, however, it is "only a matter of form," it certainly is a very useless one, and the sooner it is done away with the better. What on earth can the Lieutenant-Governor have to do with the private arrangements between two captains and a mate. The captain of the *Patriot* was willing to dispense with his mate, the captain of the *Charles* was anxious to receive him; and yet it appears that the Police Magistrate has power to prevent any such engagement, until the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor has been received! We know of many strange laws, but if this be *law* fairly beats all the others out of the field. We cannot see the necessity or the motive of such a regulation—it is a piece of buffoonery altogether—a mockery of justice, and a very ridiculous specimen of *legislative nonsense.*

BUSHRANGERS.—Two desperate characters, named Patrick Mohen and Joseph Broom, alias Browne, have this week undergone an examination before Captain Forth, police magistrate at Campbell Town, on the capital charge of Bushranging. It appears that these fellows, about day break on Monday the 2nd instant, entered the shepherds hut of H. Harrison, Esq., and possessed themselves of two guns; they then tied the shepherd's hands and feet, and robbed him of money, clothes, ammunition, and provisions. A female who had lost her way, and accidently wandered towards the same hut, was also robbed of fifteen shillings, and left bound along wth the shepherd. They afterwards proceeded to a house on the estate of John M'Leod, Esq., where they robbed a servant who had just opened the door, and ransacked the house all over, threatening to blow out the brains of any of the inmates who should attempt to leave the house before twenty minutes had expired. They were however soon after pursued, and being overtaken after a chase of two miles, they made a stand amongst some rocks where they defied their pursuers to approach. The latter having no fire-arms, the bushrangers contrived once more by favor of some broken ground, to evade their pursuers, and stole off, after having disencumbered themselves of their plunder and arms. They were, however, soon after met with in a field adjoining Mr. Leake's house, at Rosedale, where they were secured.

GOOD NEWS FOR THE CORONER.—A recent decision of the Police Magistrates appears to be a fit text for a few comments. A constable apprehended a sailor on the wharf in a state of intoxication, he had twice during the day put him on board his vessel, and was endeavouring to do so again, but the man persisted in remaining on shore, and continued reeling about the wharf. Major Wentworth severely reprimanded the constable, and dismissed the prisoner because at the time he was apprehended, he was not disturbing the public peace by any violent or outrageous conduct. Orders were also issued that no sailor or other person should be apprehended on a charge of drunkenness if their conduct was quiet and peaceable. This order will benefit no one but the Coroner, for if sailors in a state of intoxication are allowed to pass from and on board their vessels without, fear of interruption, it will not be long before the Coroners income will be materially encreased. If we mistake not about six months since a very proper order was issued that no sailor should be allowed to go on board his vessel in an intoxicated state, and we are quite sure in the present case, if any accident had occurred, the constable on duty at the wharf would have been the first person called to account, and probably would not have been allowed to escape with only a reprimand. Major Wentworth's order is not exactly the thing to lessen the number of deaths by drowning so common in this port.

FIRE ON BOARD THE PATRIOT.—About twelve o'clock on Sunday night, constable Kirby, on duty at the wharf observed some smoke issuing from the forecastle of the above vessel, lying at the Queens wharf. Upon going on board he found all hands asleep, and a quantity of clothes in the forecastle in flames; he seized hold of them, and running upon deck, threw them into the river; he then procured a bucket and by throwing a plentiful supply of water down the hatchway succeeded in extinguishing the fire before any of the crew were disturbed. A quantity of shavings had just ignited when Kirby discovered the fire, and but for his praiseworthy exertions the vessel would probably have been burnt to the waters edge. We hope to see his conduct rewarded by the Government, as he at prsent holds no indulgence and is, we believe, a very useful member of the police.

WE have on several occasions, lately observed a flock of sheep grazing in the burial ground, to which we call the attention of the party in charge who we are sure can have no authority to permit such an apparent violation of decorum. If the grass (which we believe is the excuse) be too long, some means of cutting it might surely be found without converting the ground into a sheep run.

THE recently received Port Phillip papers bring the very gratifying intelligence that the great Land Sale has been withdrawn by Sir George Gipps, in compliance with the urgent request of the Port Phillipians. We quite coincide in the opinion that had this sale taken place, the utmost embarrassment would have ensued, and that this very prudent step of Sir George Gipps will undoubtedly save the Colony from ultimate ruin. It is stated that the good effects of this resolution are already become brisker and money more plentiful.

THE foundation stone of the New College was laid with all due ceremony on Saturday last, in the Government Domain at New Norfolk. We look upon this as another act of injustice to this side of the College, in justice to all parties, should have been as near central as possible, and if this could not be conveniently accomplished, then the nearest central district should have been selected, provided it was not deficient in natural advantages. Instead of this the College is to be built at a comfortable drive from the capital, whilst to gentlemen on this side of the colony, the journey cannot be well performed in less than two or three days. The district of Campbell Town is in every respect equal to New Norfolk, and combines the requisites of climate, healthiness, and respectability, with a nearer approach to centrality, Campbell Town is the richest, the most popular, the healthiest, and we may add the most loyal, the most social, and the most influential district in the Island, whilst New Norfolk possesses few attractions beyond a healthy situation, and nearness to the capital.

THE Anniversary of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, will be held in the Patterson-street Chapel, on Monday next. The meeting will be addressed by the Rev. D. Cargill, A. M., who we understand has been for some years employed as a Missionary at the Feegee Islands, where his labours have been crowned with considerable success. The Rev. gentleman has translated a large portion of the Scriptures into the aboriginal language of those Islands, which has been published. Preparatory Sermons will be preached on Sunday next, in the Patterson-street Chapel, Launceston, by the Rev. D. Cargill, and in the Wesleyan Chapel, Longford, by the Rev. W. A. Brooks.

CALCUTTA.

FRIEND OF INDIA, FEBUARY 18.

ANOTHER BATCH OF RETURNED COOLIES.—The declaration of twenty-eight more of the Coolies returned from the Mauritius, taken before the Chief Magistrate in Calcutta, is published in the *Courier* of Saturday evening last. Their report is far less favourable to the cause of Cooly emigration than that of the former batch. With three or four exceptions, the money which they have brought with them, falls very far short of the sums brought by those who preceded them. They all declare that they have no complaints to make; but the meaning they seem to attach to this word appears somewhat singular, except when we take into account the indisposition of a native to acknowledge before one white man that he has any complaint to pufer against another of the same class. Thes Angoo saith "I have no complaint to make I experienced great trouble at the Mauritius; two day's pay were deducted for one day's leave. I did not get the full rations promised. I was promised clothing every six months, I got it only once a year." Another man says, "I have no complaint. If we did not work, we were beat; our provisions were short. I have no intention to go back." Short provender and blows, and no complaint to make. What patience! A third says, "I have no complaint; if I did not work, I was looked up and put in the stocks. I will not go back." It is worthy of remark also, that of these only one man declares his intention to remain in his own country for the purpose of cultivating the soil, as he has brought 260 Rupees with him. Not one of the Coolies expresses the slightest wish to return; a large number of them declare positively, without assigning any reason, that they will not return. The individual who has back the largest sum, or 400 Rupees, that is, 100 Rupees more than his pay during the whole period of his residence at the Mauritius, states, that twenty out of a hundred and seventeen died in the first two years, that many of them would not work, and were beaten. We have more of beating, and less of savings in the present declarations than in those which preceded them; and unless the next arrivals should bring more encouraging reports, we shall naturally be led to conclude, that the first arrivals afforded the most flattering exhibition that could be made. The present shew of returned emigrants is, generally speaking, less satisfactory in all respects; and the steady determination of the men not to return, will probably tell more effectually on the minds of their countrymen, than the little savings which they are able to exhibit, and which the more considerate of their countrymen, will not fail to weigh against the five years starvation to which their families have been subjected.

The Chief Magistrate, in his official report of the examination of these Coolies says, "it is impossible to see the majority of these men, and not perceive that they are considerably improved in condition; they in truth all look healthy, and many are well dressed." Our worthy contemporary of the *Courier*, who treads in the footsteps of his predecessor, and stands alone in advocating Cooly emigration, exclaims that these declarations united to Mr. McFarlan's statement of their appearance, "comprises another of the strongest bodies of testimony in favour of Cooly emigration that could be adduced." That the Coolies should look well after a six weeks' voyage by sea, with nothing to do beyond the duty of digesting their food, is not much to be wondered

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at. If they had been reduced to skeletons by their masters, after such a voyage they would naturally have appeared to the Chief Magistrate, plump and sleek, But we give the Mauritius planters more credit for a knowledge of their own interests than to withhold from the Cooly the food which was necessary to his efficiency as a field labourer. All labourers, rational and irrational, are judiciously fed by those who have an eye to their own advantage. One of the strongest arguments brought forward in favour of West India slavery was, that the Negro slave was in better condition than the English labourer; and the well nurtured figure of the returned Cooly is no stronger argument in favour of Cooly emigration than the athletic appearance of the Jamaica slave, was in favour of African slavery.

The *Eastern Star* has quoted some articles in his last number, from an *English Journal*, in which the price of East India sugar in India is estimated at 10*s*. the cwt. The Editor must have been in a state of somnolency for the last half century. We question whether sugar has ever been so cheap in India, as three Rupees and a half a maund; certainly not since the golden age. Mr. Law, of the Board of Revenue, in the introduction to his work on the Rising Resources of Bengal published fifty years ago, says, "Soft sugar of the best quality, from Benares, equal in appearance to the West India clayed sugars, can be bought in Calcutta at Six Rupees the maund. Were it bought immediately from the cultivator on the spot, it would not perhaps cost more than four-fifths of this price." Those halcyon days however are passed we fear for ever. If any merchant can now load a vessel with sugar at 25*s*. the cwt. weight, we think that in the present season he would consider himself fortunate. Times are changed; the demand and the competition is greater, and the price of manufacturing sugar is proportionately higher. We have it on the best authority that the expenses of making sugar in the present season will be from *fifteen to twenty* per cent, higher than in the last. This will be so much abstracted from the profits of the manufacturer, and the merchant, and added to the comforts of the labouring population in the country. The price of agricultural produce, and of manual labour has risen in consequence of the demand for sugar, and the welfare of the Native community has been largely promoted thereby. And it is on this ground, that the cultivation of sugar appears to us, on a prima facie view of the case, to be more beneficial to the interests of India, than that of indigo. An increase of twenty per cent. in the price of sugar has resulted in bringing a large accession to the comforts of the people at large. No rise in the price of indigo—and we know that it rose seventy per cent, on one occasion—appears to have brought any improvement of circumstances to the population employed in raising it.

LOCAL AGENCIES.—The official signification of this term through the Presidency is so little known, that the importance of the change which has been recently made in reference to the management of them, is appreciated by few. These Agencies were established by a Regulation of 1810 to take charge of those lands and buildings, connected with public institutions, lay or religious, which by any arrangement might be brought into connection with Government. We take up the subject, chiefly to notice the gratifying progress of good sense, which becomes more and more visible in the conduct of public affairs in India.

That Regulation was passed with the view of providing for the due appropriation of the rents and produce of lands granted for the support of Mosques, Hindoo temples, and Colleges, and for other pious and beneficial purposes. It was therein ordained that the superintendence of these lands should be vested in the Board of Revenue, and that Local Agents, consisting exclusively of the civil, military and medical servants of the State, should be nominated to manage these affairs in their respective districts. To understand with what order of things this enactment is associated, it is only necessary to look through the Regulations of the same year. We find that eight months before these provisions on the subject of Local Agencies were passed, Government had put the finishing stroke to its arrangements for the maintenance of order and decency in the temple of Juggunnath, which had been taken under its especial patronage. After long consultation with the Pandas of that shrine, the Right Honourable the Governor General in Council definitively fixed upon the persons who were and those who were not to be admitted into that sacred enclosure, and promulgated a list of sixteen classes who, as being of low caste, were not to be allowed a sight of the god in his own temple. Two months before the Local Agency Act, the Governor General had also completed a set of amended rules for shaving and bathing at Allahabad, and ordained that the barbers should be exempted from paying any tax, but that if they shaved any pilgrim who had not paid it, they should be subject to a fine of fifteen Rupees. The establishment of Local Agencies for the due appropriation of all endowments by Government and its Christian servants, to all use of heathen and Mahomedan institutions, grew out of the feelings of that age, which were distinguished by an anxiety to extend the patronage of the state to Hindoo and Mahomedan institutions, and to discourage by all means the introduction of Christianity. These feelings may be considered as having reached their climax about the period of this enactment, in 1810. Within three years after, Lord Hastings assumed the Government, and a new era dawned upon India. Sound ideas have since been making a steady and uninterrupted progress; and among these none is more sound than the idea, that the allegiance of India, is more likely to be secured by raising the people in the scale of intellectual existence, than by fostering their gloomy superstitions. And one of the most obvious steps in this liberal progress was to divest these idolatrous of that adventitious attractions which the patronage of Government imparted to them. Inch by inch the whole system has given way; first went the pilgrim tax at Allahabad; that at Gya followed in its wake last year; then the support of Government was withdrawn from Jaggunnath; and now we have to congratulate the public on the arrangements which have been made for transferring the Local Agencies to Natives of the country.

The immediate occasion on which the attention of Government was drawn to the reform of this branch of the system, must be fresh in the recollection of all. It referred to the repairs of the Emambara at Hooghly, a Mahomedan Institution, which had come under the superintendence of the State. The Board of Revenue was called upon to make arrangements for that purpose; but the majority of its members represented to the Governor General, that the enactment of 1810 did not appear to include this among their duties, and that they felt a conscientious repugnance to any such interference in the managements of the temples. Their interpretation was fully borne out by a reference to the phraseology of the Act; but a violent outcry was raised against them by some of our Editorial brethren for their supposed contumacy, and they were called on to repair the Emambara or to resign their appointments. We have no doubt, that if the request had been pressed on them, they would have placed their posts at the disposal of Government. But the tide had already turned in favour of liberty of conscience. The resignation of Sir Peregrine Maitland had done the Company a world of harm at home; and to force new resignations on similar grounds was felt to be unwise and imprudent. As the Mutawullee, or Mahomedan director of the Institution, had, moreover entreated that the repairs might be entrusted to him, all excuse for insisting on the compliance of the Board was removed. It is true that the old, and almost thread-bare plea of a *pledge* was again paraded abroad; and national faith was talked of, on this occasion, as it had been when Suttees were about to be extinguished. But Government was wise enough to see that the pledge consisted of nothing more or less than the Regulation XIX. of 1810, and that if the Regulations were to be considered inviolable, there must be an end of all improvement in legislation. And there were not wanting men about the seat of authority, who felt that any little inconvenience which might be experienced from an over-conscientiousness in the public servants, was not to be put in comparison with that which would be sustained by the predominance of opposite feelings. They perceived that as all the charges brought against our administration since the battle of Plassey, were grounded on the want of a conscience in the public functionaries, it would be inconsistent to punish with any severity of rebuke, those who were so happy as to possess one, and so bold as to use it. And so the question of Local Agencies was reconsidered, with a view to adopt them to the more enlightened principles which had been adopted by Government; and we may now consider the compulsory superintendence of Temples and Mosques as buried in the same sepulchre with the pilgrim tax. A very recent Circular Order declares it to be the wish of Government, that Natives of respectability should be associated in the management of the business allotted to the Local Agents, and that they should receive a remuneration for their labour from the funds which they may be called to administer, subject of course to that general control which the State ought always to maintain, in order to prevent the misappropriation or alienation of them. This is the dictate of sound sense. The natives are more competent, and more willing to undertake these duties than Europeans, and they have none of that feeling of religious scruple which Christians must ever feel on such occasions. It is reasonable therefore that they should be entrusted with them, and that the Christian members of Government should be exonerated from duties they cannot conscientiously perform. Yet "so slow is the growth of what is excellent," that it has required ten years to establish this just and equitable principle; and the victory has not been gained without a very arduous struggle.

HURKARU, FEBRUARY 16.

In the report we yesterday published, from the *Penang Gazette*, of the capture of the whaler, *Pilot* by the natives of Ho Ho, in one of the Nicobar Islands, and her re-capture by H. M. sloop *Cruizer*, we find mention made of the recovery, from the native villages, of French glazed hats, and sundry other articles, which would lead to the supposition that the *Pilot* was not the first vessel that had been captured by the savages. We strongly incline to this belief ourselves. The systematic manner in which the attack was made—the show of friendship, until such time as an opportunity served, during the absence of the major part of the crew from the vessel, to assail her with success—leads us to believe, that the people of Ho Ho were no novices in such matters.

There are, besides, several vessels that were bound from this port to China, or the Straits, very unaccountably missing. The *Edina*, the *Syren*, the *Mootichund Amichund*, the *Rover*, the *Nymph*, the *Haidee*, and others that we cannot at present call to mind, have not been heard of since their departure, and not the slightest vestige of a wreck denoting the loss of either, has been discovered, though H. M. ship *Conway* was sent on a cruize in search of them. A Malay, on board of some vessel that came from the Straits to Calcutta, did certainly state, that the *Nymph* had been suddenly capsized by a squall, off Malacca, and that articles recovered from her, had been offered for sale, in the markets of the Malayan states; but very little reliance can be placed on the truth of the first part of his story; and it is not unlikely that the missing vessels have been obliged, in consequence of some disaster, sustained at sea, to put into the Nicobar islands, where they have been captured, and their cargoes transmitted for sale, to the Malayan states in the Straits, through the agency of the praos that constantly resort to the Nicobars. The Andaman and Nicobar Islands, are directly in the track of vessels bound to the Straits from this port, and the notoriously hostile disposition of the Andamanese, would deter those, that might be dismasted, or otherwise injured in a gale, in the south-eastern extremity of the Bay of Bengal, from seeking shelter there; while the good repute of the Nicobar Islands, would invite them to bear up for one of them. We repeat, therefore, that it is not unlikely that the missing vessels, had gone into the Nicobars, where they had been captured by the natives, and, after being rifled of every thing, destroyed, to avoid detection and consequent punishment.

We would suggest to Lord Auckland, the propriety of sending an armed vessel, to visit and minutely survey these islands, as it is more than possible, that the survivors of the crews of these vessels which might have fallen into the hands of the natives of the Nicobars—if any of them have been spared—are now in a state of cruel bondage among the savages, from which to release them, no exertions should be spared. To despatch a ship of the *Conway's* tonnage, to inspect the islands, will not serve the purpose;—a vessel of much smaller size,—say about that of H. M. sloop *Childers*,—aided by a steamer, would prove more effective, and could not only liberate such prisoners as might be in the hands of the natives, but teach these pursuit and lawless islanders, a salutary lesson, which would make them, for the future, refrain from indulging their sanguinary and predatory propensities.

COURIER, FEBRUARY 17.

Whether the Government do or do not think it advisable to establish a fort on the Nicobars, as suggested by us on Saturday we presume there will be no delay permitted in despatching thither a ship and a party of troops, not so much for the purpose of retribution as recommended by the *Englishman* as to ascertain whether any of the crew of the *Pilot* Whaler, besides those picked up, have escaped from being massacred. As the Crew originally consisted of 33 men, and only 10 were saved by the *Cruizer*, let us hope that all the others have not been murdered. There is, at all events, a chance that they have not, and this being so we hope not a day will be lost in sending a vessel.

We have lately seen a letter addressed by a gentleman who has long been resident in Goruckpore to one of his friends in Calcutta, stating that the slave trade is still carried on in the remote parts of that district in utter defiance of the existing regulations of Government. We believe the writer is not fully aware that the Anglo-India Government, in its endeavour to secure to the people of this country the full benefits of their national usages, customs and institutions, has, from the first consolidation of its power in this quarter, recognized the Hindoo and Mahomedan law of slavery, with certain modifications. This is a fact to which every one sufficiently acquainted with the existing code of Indian laws and the present state of the native society, must bear his unimpeachable testimony. The high authority of Sir W. H. Macnaghten, among others, may be quoted here is proof of what we affirm; he says—"thousands are at this moment living in a state of hopeless and contented, though unauthorized, boudage."

That the slave-trade is still carried on at Gorruckpore with impunity, we are not disposed to deny, for in the years 1837-38, Mr. Liston, the Assistant Surveyor of the district, being requested to collect all the available statistical information of the place, discovered that the infamous traffic in human flesh and blood existed there to a considerable extent. He communicated this melancholy fact to the Editor of the *Asiatic Journal*, in which a detailed account of the whole transactions can be found. It is very likely that the local authorities there have not been able in the course of the last two years to suppress the illegal and inhuman traffic in the solitary parts of the district, where the people from their distance and isolation are seldom brought under the immediate cognizance and vigilant controul of the public officers. It is very difficult to effect any salutary change in the condition of those who willingly submit to all the hardships and privations of bond-slaves, and are quite destitute of the slightest degree of moral courage to protest against the multiform cruelties of their relentless masters and tear themselves from their withering grasp. Such is the constitution of society in this country that domestic slavery—the worst species of servitude defying all the operative virtue of remedial measures—will continue to exist long after the legal slave trade shall have been abolished by the benevolent efforts of the Supreme Government. A new principle of rational liberty must be into the minds of those who are now bleeding at every pore through the fangs of ignorance and superstition, before a death blow can be struck at the very root of Indian slavery. Reform is a chirurgical operation which the constitution must undergo ere it can recover itself from the effects of disease. No Government however liberal, and no system of however wise, can thoroughly emancipate those men from the galling fetters of bondage to whom the very idea of amelioration is unpalatable and who manifest no desire to rise in the scale of social existence. When the convulsed and revolutionary state of the native society, for which seeds have been sown so thickly by the great pioneer—education shall arouse unthinking stupidity from its slumber, all men will naturally rise up from a state of depression and bondage and assert their dignity as free and rational beings, but till then all the efforts of Government towards the complete emancipation of the Indian slaves would not be sufficient to effect the desired consummation.

At a Meeting of the Justices of the Peace we observe the subject of lighting the streets of Calcutta more efficiently than they are at present was discussed, and a better plan determined on. In what manner it is proposed that this should be done, we are not acquainted with; but whatever it may be, we should certainly suggest for the consideration of the Justices that the means adopted should be by *gas*—this method, as all among us know, has been tried with success at home and might with equal or greater success be put into effect here, where coal, oil and manual labour are all cheaper than in England. The expansion and contraction of the metal of the pipes may perhaps be urged as a bar to its use, but we think there can be no good ground for it, for were cast iron pipes used, of a smaller calibre than those in London, and laid in sand about 2 feet from the surface, we are sure no difference in the size of the metal from change of atmospheric temperature would occur. Estimates for the lighting of Tank Square (as a first trial) by gas from *coal* and also *oil*, which is the cheaper article of the two, might be procured, and should this be found to succeed, though on so small a scale, there would be no doubt regarding its success when the whole of the streets were subject to the same process. The *Hurkaru* Press and some other large establishments in Calcutta are at present lighted by gas, but they are all separate and have each its own means of generating the gas wherefore they should not form a criterion for the general measure, for it is allowed, that where the works are the more extensive the expense of working them is comparatively less. But even, if the expense was only equal, the superiority of gass for street illumination is so generally admitted that it would still deserve a preference.

MEDICAL COLLEGE.

At the distribution of diplomas at the Medical College on Thursday evening, there was a large attendance of gentlemen of high standing in our Calcutta society, both European and Native—among the former we noticed Hon'ble Sir Ed. Ryan: C. H. Cameron, Esq.; F. Millett, Esq. C. S.; Hon. W. W. Bird, Esq. C. S.; C. W. Smith, Esq. C. S.; F. J. Halliday, Esq. C. S.; D. Hare, Esq.; Drs. Wise, Grant, Garden, Goodeve, W. B. and R. O'Shaughnessy, and W. W. Raleigh—besides several other gentlemen whose names we did not find out; among the native gentlemen we observed, Baboo Ramcomul Sen, Prosonnocoomar and Rammanath Tagores; &c.; the upper part of the theatre was filled by the senior boys from the Hindoo College and Mr. Hare's School.

Lord Auckland, true to the minute, made his appearance at a quarter to 5 p. m., and took his seat at the table. Dr. Goodeve stated the object of the Meeting—to give diplomas to the successful candidates; also to distribute prizes to those students, who had passed the best examination, and to bestow some other rewards, which the liberality of our townsman, Baboo Dwarkanath Tagore, had enabled them to give. The number of candidates for the diplomas had been sixteen, out of which seven had been rejected; one had died during the examination, and seven had been found entitled to receive diplomas. Dr. Goodeve then read the report of the Examiners regarding the manner in which the other students had passed their examination.

His Lordship rose and expressed the interest he had ever felt and should continue to feel in the prosperity of the Institution; and then distributed the diplomas, accompanying the act with a few words of advice and encouragement to each of the following successful candidates:

Modoosudun Goopto.	Lalla Chumunlall Baboo.
Jadubchunder Dhara.	Mr. T. C. Imlay.
Rajkisto Chatterjee.	Nobokistno Goopto.
Govindchunder Goopto.	

The following young men received prizes for having passed the best examination:

Satcowrie Dutt,.. ...Gold Medal and 50 rupees.
Rajindra Mittra,..... Silver do. and ditto.
Govind Doss,.. ... . } Each of 100 rupees.
Prosunnocoomar Mitter, } Each of 100 rupees.
Tarachurn Pine,.. .... } Each of 100 rupees.

Four prizes were also given to the following young men of the Chemical Class:

Dinnonath Dhur,.. .. } Each of 50 rupees.
Prosunnocoomar Mitter, } Each of 50 rupees.
Samachurn Sircar,..... } Each of 50 rupees.
Issurchurn Doss,..... } Each of 50 rupees.

Three students received certificates of good character, and two Ceylon students, Mr. Loose and Mr. Ludigrass, were entitled to medals, but the medals not being quite ready, could not be presented on this occasion.

His Lordship in dismissing the assembly, returned his hearty thanks to the Professors for the zeal they had displayed in the instruction of the students, and to the students for the aptitude with which they had received the instruction—& hoped that they would be not only an honor to their Professors, and a credit to themselves, but also a benefit to the public by the greater extension of Medical relief. His Lordship alluded to two young men (Rajkisto Dey and Omachurn Sett), who had distinguished themselves, in very laudatory terms; whose example he trusted would be generally followed by the students of the College.—*Courier, Feb.* 20.

MADRAS,

UNITED SERVICE GAZETTE, FEB. 23.

NAWAUB ABBAS ALI KHAN OF OODIAGHERRY.—It was but in our last number that a Nellore Correspondent adverted to the case of the Oodiagherry Jaghire dar, who, on suspicion of treasonable practices in conjunction with the late Nawaub of Kurnool, was placed in confinement some eighteen months ago, his conduct subjected to the investigation of a Commission, & finally his person committed to *honourable durance* in the Fort of Chingleput. The worldly cares of Nawab Abbas Ali Khan have, however, ceased. His health declined, we are told, from the day of his confinement, whether from a sense of guilt towards the British Government, or the sudden prostration of his fortunes, we cannot venture to say, but are assured that the old eagle of Oodiagherry drooped his wing from the moment he was expelled from his eyrie, and since his engagement has, day by day, become more enfeebled, until he finally breathed his last in the Fort of Chingleput a few days ago. Thus has this last fine old ruin of an ancient and noble house crumbled into dust; and now, what askwe, is to become of the family of this venerable nobleman who had numbered, says our informant, upwards of three quarters of a century at the time of his incarceration, and has left two sons and five daughters to lament the loss of the head of their house and the ruin of the family by its expulsion from its ancestral property. All things considered, it is perhaps little to be regretted that the poor old Nawaub has been spared further participation in the sorrows of those near and dear to him, but we trust that his sad fate will be duly considered by the authorities, and more especially by our truly kind hearted Governor, in making suitable provision for the remaining scions of this ancient Race.

UNFEELING CONDUCT OF A TRIPASSOOR PENSIONER TOWARDS A LADY.—A circumstance has been brought to our notice deserving of the strongest reprehension, and we shall feel much surprise if the offending party do not receive a pretty strong admonition at the hands of the Officer Commanding Poonamallee, to whom a report has been made on the subject of the unfeeling conduct of the individual, one Pitt, an old Chelsea Pensioner residing at Tripassoor, towards a Lady, the wife of an Officer, who, with an infant reached that Station between eight and nine at night on Sunday the 7th instant. The Traveller's Bungalow was, it appears, occupied on that day by some young Officers who had arrived there in the morning, and Serjeant Major Hilton having no other place wherein the lady and her baby could be accommodated for the night, wished to give her shelter in the Mission-house, which was then unoccupied and under the temporary charge of Pensioner Pitt, whom the Serjeant Major requested to allow the lady to enter therein; stating further, that he had the consent of a Mr. Bowers, we presume the person who had authority over the building; nevertheless, the old churl refused thus to afford the shelter required. The building alluded to, was, we understand, built by subscription, and there could have been no possible impropriety in the lady occupying a part of it for a night, as we are informed on the best authority, that a Missionary resided for several months in a room attached thereto.

We are indeed surprised at such unfeeling conduct on the part of this old Pensioner, [for Soldiers] and Sailors have ever been proverbial for their kindly tenderness towards women and children, and thus an act of this kind is the more to be wondered at in one of the "cloth," and we are quite sure that Pensioner Pitt's comrades, whether at Tripassoor, or other Stations, will all alike join in condemning his unfeeling behaviour towards an unprotected female!

THE KURNOOL PRIZE MORTARS, &c.—The Tiger Mortars and other curiosities in the shape of Ordnance, taken at Kurnool, have reached the Presidency and are well worth the trouble of a visit to the Arsenal in Fort St. George.

MOFUSSIL CHIT CHAT.

THE BARAMAHL, 27*th February*.—"The weather has been very warm lately, so much so that the "*Patent Wentilating Gossamer*" would have been considered a most desirable appurtenance to the wayworn traveller in these parts, until the last few days, when an agreeable change took place, and we have since had cloudy but pleasant mornings with occasional high gusts of wind, giving certain indications of a speedy alteration in the weather, and true to this promise, the sky became suddenly overcast yesterday and from four P. M. till eight at night we had a most tremendous downpour, accompanied by awful peals of thunder and continued flashes of lightning. During the last half hour of the storm, the rain ceased, and hail fell such as I scarcely ever witnessed, the wind at the same time blowing a perfect gale from the East, and then veering to the South, with such a degree of violence, as combined with the hail, proved very destructive to the trees, many of which are not only stripped of their foliage, but numerous little birds who had sought shelter in the branches were killed by the hail-stones. The Thermometer was at the time ranging at 70½°. The dry crops had fortunately almost all come in but those still uncut will, it is feared, suffer from the effects of the hail. Our market rates at present are as follows:—

Raggy	per	Rupee	50	Madras	Measures.
Toor	,,	,,	24	,,	,,
Buller	,,	,,	60	,,	,,
Cooltie	,,	,,	50	,,	,,
Chenna	,,	,,	16	,,	,,
Green Gram	,,	,,	48	,,	,,
Rice	,,	,,	20	,,	,,

This is the coffee season on the Sheveroy Hills where the planters are making every exertion to secure themselves a plentiful gathering, and I am told that they have lately had an accession to their numbers, so that the cultivation of the more valuable Staple is rapidly encreasing, we may hope ere long that the grand essentials of the breakfast table,—Coffee and Sugar, will be obtainable in abundance from the Salem district. Our much esteemed Collector is steadily progressing with the annual settlement, and I am informed that he has already gone thro' most of the low Talooks, and is expected shortly in this range to take up those of the Barramahl and Bolaghaut. It is reported that in consequence of some defalcation lately detected at the Post Office at Salem, the Letter Peon has been discharged. The Rev. Mr. Luttyens, junior Chaplain of Bangalore lately visited the small community of Christians at Ryacottah, much to their satisfaction, as it is long since a minister has been amongst them. It is the intention of the Rev. Gentleman to open a little School at Ryacottah as well as to get the Protestant Burying Ground put in repair. The Civil Engineer's Department has been employed for the past month in its tour of Inspection, on the repairs of Water Works, Roads and public Bangalows in this section of the district, and is now on route to Salem, preparatory to visiting Coimbatore. We have no Engineer Officer to this Division at present, in consequence of the one lately appointed having been unexpectedly called away to join the Field Force in Scinde, nevertheless the routine duties seem to be ably and effectually carried on by the subordinates, the Senior of whom is a person of superior intelligence, and who I am told, has been in that department for twenty years. I am given to understand that the Cadaumbore Tank in Ahtoor, will, if sanctioned by the Board, give a large increase to the Revenue and be highly beneficial to the people. Twenty-two Remount Horses passed down from Ossoor the other day, in charge of a Jemadar of the 8th Cavalry many of them appeared fine cattle, but some were, I think, rather undersized. The Buckreed festival went off very quietly and the Muslems are now preparing for the approaching Mohurrum."

ELLORE, 17*th Feby.*—"Owing to the entire failure of the November rains, the weather has been very oppressive until the last three or four days when rain fell all around, though not at this station, which caused the air to become cooler, and yesterday we had a great deal of thunder and lightning and a hail storm or rather a shower of ice fell; it lasted about five minutes. The pieces of ice were generally of a square form, and from half to three quarters of an inch square; the thickness in the centre about a quarter of an inch but thinner towards the sides. After the hail had ceased, the rain poured down in torrents, but the ground was so dry previously, that it has served merely to lay the dust."

SPECTATOR, FEBRUARY 24.

A Correspondent at Vizagapatam informs us of the death of a highly respectable Native Gentleman of that place, GODAY SOOBIAPRACAUSAH ROW, which ocurred suddenly on Monday morning the 15th Instant. In the words of our correspondent, "all who are acquainted with his worth both of the European and Native Community, his loss will be keenly felt and deeply regretted. His manners and address were extremely engaging, and his information more than ordinarily extensive. His amiable disposition and suavity of manner endeared him to every one, and during a long and intimate acquaintance with the Europeans of this division, he had gained for himself no common share of their esteem and affection."

At Cannanore the weather we learn is now getting very warm, though the nights continue cool; thunder and lightning accompanied by slight showers have lately passed over the Cantonment. The 9th Regiment N. I, was reviewed by Major General PATY, C. B., on the morning of the 10th, the manœuvres were well performed, and the Major General we understand expressed himself much pleased with the general appearance and steadiness of the men. The business of the day concluded with some festivities, which to the "reviewed" formed probably the most agreeable of the proceedings

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An inspection of the 39th Regiment N. I. by Major General Sir ROBERT DICK, took place on Monday afternoon on the Island, this Regiment being about to embark for Singapore on being relieved by the 41st.

By the Retirement in England of Lieutenant Colonel TOWNSEND and Lieutenant Colonel HANSON, the following promotions will take place.

Major WATKINS 36th Regiment and Major LAURIE 9th Regiment, to be Lieut.-Colonels.

36th Regiment N. I—Captain G. C. WHITLOCK to be Major, Lieut. and Brevet Captain R. H. ROBERTSON to be Captain, and Ensign W. J. DOVETON to be Lieutenant.

9th Regiment N. I.—Captain T. M. CAMERON to be Major, Lieut. and Brevet Captain J. J. LOSH to be Captain, and Ensign J. H. THOMSON to be Lieutenant.

The 41st Regiment N. I. had on the 19th, proceeded as far on their march as Naidoopettah, the Regiment was very healthy, having lost but one man who had previously been ailing. They expect to reach the Presidency on Friday next. The Guntoor district we hear is flooded, while the Rajahmundry division is completely parched.

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